

CLAIMS

Rule 126

sub a1

Claim 78. A bowler's finger pad shield for protecting a bowler's finger from the force of a bowling ball against the finger pad of said bowler's finger, when a bowler's maximum force is applied by the finger pad to the bowling ball in the release of the bowling ball, comprising:

- a. a finger pad shield means having a first surface, and a second surface opposed to said first surface;
- b. said first surface including a contact area for receiving the finger pad of a bowler's finger;
- c. said second surface for insertion into the finger hole of a bowling ball against the interior wall of said finger hole and for receiving the force of said bowling ball when a bowler's maximum force is applied by said finger pad to the bowling ball, in releasing the bowling ball;
- d. means for placing, connected to said finger pad shield means, for placing said contact area in contact with said finger pad; and wherein
- e. said finger pad shield means is made of a rigid material adapted to spread said force of said bowling ball over said contact area of said first surface for reducing the pressure over said contact area.

sub a2

Claim 79. The bowler's finger pad shield means of Claim 78, wherein said finger pad shield means includes two side walls terminating in an end for placement in opposition to the end of said bowler's finger, and said two side walls are displaced from each other with a narrowing displacement in the direction of said end, for locating said contact area on said finger pad.

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Claim 80. The bowler's finger pad shield means of Claim 78, wherein said first surface of said finger pad shield means has a curved surface.

a <sup>4</sup> Claim ~~81~~. The bowler's finger pad shield means of Claim ~~78~~, wherein said finger pad shield means has an open end.

~~Subas~~  
Claim ~~82~~. The bowler's finger pad shield means of Claim 78, wherein said finger pad shield means has a closed end and wherein said means for placing is adapted for placing said closed end in contact with the end of said bowler's finger.

a <sup>6</sup> Claim ~~83~~. The bowler's finger pad shield means of Claim ~~78~~, wherein said means for placing is a glove having a finger part and said finger pad shield means is attached to said finger part.

a <sup>7</sup> Claim ~~84~~. The bowler's finger pad shield means of Claim ~~78~~, wherein said means for placing is a glove having a finger part and said finger pad shield means is within said finger part.

a <sup>8</sup> Claim ~~85~~. The bowler's finger pad means of Claim ~~78~~, wherein said means for placing is a glove having a finger part and said finger pad shield means is exterior to said finger part.

a <sup>9</sup> Claim ~~86~~. The bowler's finger pad shield means of Claim ~~78~~, including a limit means for contacting the surface of a bowling ball to limit the depth of insertion of said finger pad shield means into the finger hole of a bowling ball.

a <sup>10</sup> Claim ~~87~~. The bowler's finger pad shield means of Claim ~~86~~, wherein said limit means is a raised surface extending away from said finger pad shield means.

a <sup>11</sup> Claim ~~88~~. The bowler's finger pad shield means of Claim ~~78~~, wherein said finger pad shield means includes a closed end and includes a limit means connected to said shield means for engaging the surface of a bowling ball to limit

movement of said finger pad shield means into said bowling ball finger grip hole and said limit means is in a fixed position relative to said closed end.

a <sup>12</sup>  
Claim ~~89~~<sup>12</sup>. The bowler's finger pad shield means of Claim ~~78~~<sup>1</sup>, including, a support means connected to said shield means; and said support means is made of a rigidly deflectable material with a stable position for producing a counter force for restoring said support means to said stable position, when deflected by a force against said finger pad shield means.

~~Sub A4~~<sup>13</sup>  
Claim ~~90~~<sup>13</sup> The bowler's finger pad shield means of Claim 89 wherein said support means includes said means for placing.

a <sup>14</sup>  
Claim ~~91~~<sup>14</sup>. The bowler's finger pad shield means of claim ~~90~~<sup>13</sup>, wherein said finger pad shield is made of the same material as said support means.

~~Sub A5~~<sup>15</sup>  
Claim ~~92~~<sup>15</sup>. The bowler's finger pad shield means of claim 78, wherein said finger pad shield means is made to substantially resist deformation in said contact area from said force of said bowling ball.

~~add A4~~  
~~add A6~~